

April 3, 2022

5th Sunday in Lent

Organ: Teresa Bernthal

Usher: Ed Morris

Acolyte: Maxwell Kuehne

For as by one man's

disobedience

many were made sinners,

so also by one Man's

obedience

many will be made righteous.

-Romans 5:19



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1 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. 2 I will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." 3 For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. 4 He will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. 5 You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. 7 A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand, but it will not come near you. 8 You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked. 9 Because you have made the Lord your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge— 10 no evil shall be allowed to befall you, no plague come near your tent. 11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. 12 On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone. 13 You will tread on the lion and the adder; the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

Welcome, in the Name of Jesus! A half century ago, during the "cold war," Russian Premier Nikita Khrushchev predicted that his nation would defeat the United States from within. Of course, Russia itself suffered an inner collapse of its own economy and power twenty years later.

Kruschev fully expected the social fabric of our nation to collapse under the subtle and steady influence of socialist-communism which had gained a foothold after World War II. We well remember how many churches at that time, especially in the south, preached against communism because of its strong opposition to "religion" – Christianity in particular.

Every student of modern history is familiar with Karl Marx, the father of socialist-communism. We were reminded recently of his statement, that "the first requisite for the happiness of the people is the abolition of religion." Marx and his followers believed that religion is "the opiate of the people."

While it is true that religion – any religion – can become like a feel-good-drug to people, it is also true that for Marx and others of this persuasion, the ultimate goal is to create dedicated servants of the state, who know no higher "worship" than to serve the "common" cause as the state defines it.

We do not preach against socialist communism, since it is a political form of government, and Christ did not commission His Church to preach against forms of government. However, this does not mean that we should not address the "religious" aspects of this human philosophy.

In fact, in respect to its philosophy that the worship of God is detrimental to the people, socialist-communism is really quite similar to Humanism and the theory of Evolution, both of which reject the worship of God. They too believe that God is not real, that those who worship Him are foolish and ignorant. They too believe that man alone is the master of his fate. They too believe that

happiness results when man is devoted to the raising up of man and the institutions man creates for this purpose.

Religion is as religion does. People who are merely “religious,” work and slave, out of desperation and fear in the service of some idea of “god.” It makes no difference whether “god” is a form of government or man himself. “Religion” comes from the sin-darkened thoughts and desire of the human heart and mind. It does nothing to produce true and lasting happiness. Where is the truly “happy” humanist, evolutionist, or communist who rejects God? Can we point to even one who is “happy” with his condition or writes “happily” about it?

Only one “religion” has not arisen from the human heart. Only one has been revealed to man. It is not foolishness or ignorance; but “the fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom”! (Ps. 19:9) Only one religion says, “Blessed (literally: happy) is the man whose sins are forgiven, . . . Blessed is the man to whom the Lord does not count iniquity . . .” (Ps. 32:1-2) Only one offers a Savior to mankind Who promises: “Come unto Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give rest to your souls.” (Matt. 11:28)

The Christian religion is not a philosophy of fear, but freedom in Christ; our faith is not about what man must still do to save himself, but what the God-Man has done to save us all. As Jesus prayed to His Father: “This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, Whom You have sent.” (John 17:3) “Blessed (happy) are all they who put their trust in Him.”

We are happy to have you with us today! Please come again.

✠ Order of Divine Worship ✠

HYMN: TLH #3

“Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now”

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Pastor

C Congregation

CONFESION AND ABSOLUTION:

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

C **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from *conception*. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin and take away my guilt.**

P God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt

forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will!

C Amen!

INTROIT

Ps. 3:3-6

P Salvation belongs to the Lord; your blessing be on your people!

C But you, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.

P I cried aloud to the Lord, and he answered me from his holy hill.

C I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the Lord sustained me.

P I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.

LORD, HAVE MERCY and GLORY TO GOD



C: Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy



on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us.



C: 1 Glo - ry to God, we give You thanks and praise;
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the Fa - ther's on - ly Son,
3 A - lone, O Christ, You on - ly are the Lord,



Of heav'n - ly joy and peace on earth we sing.
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.
At God's right hand in maj - es - ty most high:



We wor - ship You, to You our hearts we raise,
O Lamb of God, Your glo - rious vic - t'ry won,
Who, with the Spir - it wor - shiped and a - dored,



Lord God, al - might - y Fa - ther, heav'n - ly King.
Re - ceive our prayer, grant us Your peace with - in.
With all the heav'n - ly host we glo - ri - fy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P O LORD God, heavenly Father, Who by the light of Your Divine Word have led us to the true knowledge of Your Son, we pray that You would grant us the grace of Your Holy Spirit, that we may always walk in the light of Your saving truth, rejoice with confidence in Christ our Savior, and finally be brought safely unto everlasting life by Him. We ask in the name of Jesus Christ, Your son, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit – One God forever and ever.

G Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Proverb 11:23-31 The desire of the righteous is only good, But the expectation of the wicked is wrath. 24 There is one who scatters, yet increases more; And there is one who withholds more than is right, But it leads to poverty. 25 The generous soul will be made rich, And he who waters will also be watered himself. 26 The people will curse him who withholds grain, But blessing will be on the head of him who sells it. 27 He who earnestly seeks good finds favor, But trouble will come to him who seeks evil. 28 He who trusts in his riches will fall, But the righteous will flourish like foliage. 29 He who troubles his own house will inherit the wind, And the fool will be servant to the wise of heart. 30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise. 31 If the righteous will be recompensed on the earth, How much more the ungodly and the sinner.

EPISTLE READING – John 11:41-53 Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. 42 And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me.” 43 Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come forth!” 44 And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Loose him, and let him go.” 45 Then many of the Jews who had come to Mary, and had seen the things Jesus did, believed in Him. 46 But some of them went away to the Pharisees and told them the things Jesus did. 47 Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, “What shall we do? For this Man works many signs. 48 If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation.” 49 And one of them, Caiaphas, being high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all, 50 nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation

should perish.” 51 Now this he did not say on his own authority; but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, 52 and not for that nation only, but also that He would gather together in one the children of God who were scattered abroad. 53 Then, from that day on, they plotted to put Him to death.

P Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

G I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON – Romans 5:12-19 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned— 13 (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. 15 But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man’s offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. 16 And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification. 17 For if by the one man’s offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) 18 Therefore, as through one man’s offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man’s righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. 19 For as by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man’s obedience many will be made righteous.

Death by the First Adam – Life by the Second!

OFFERTORY

WS p.16

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

- ☞ 🎵 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.**

– OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS –

Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:

- ☞ 🎵 Lord, You love the cheerful giver Who with open heart and hand Blesses freely, as a river That refreshes all the land. Grant us, then, the grace of giving With a spirit large and true That our life and all our living We may consecrate to You.**

GENERAL PRAYER and the LORD'S PRAYER

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts!

C We lift them up to the Lord!

P It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God: Who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

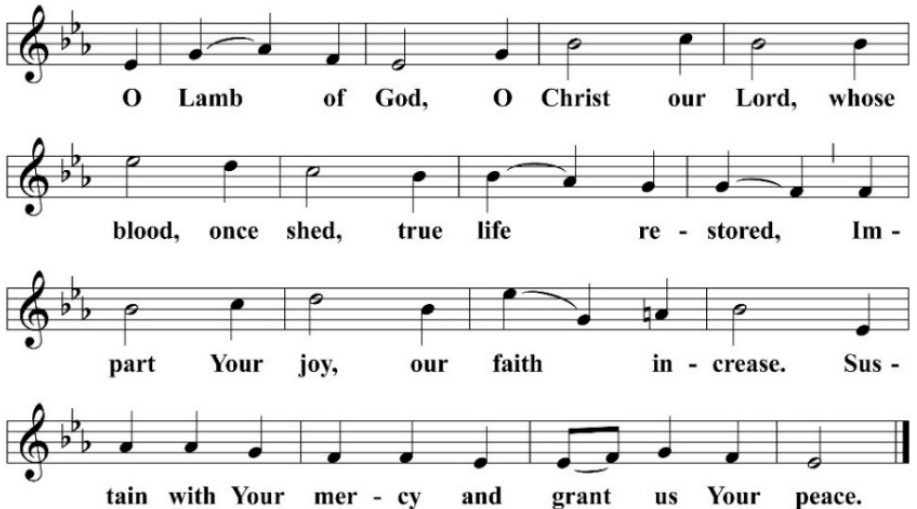
C ♪ **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabbaoth, adored; Heaven and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Lk. 22:19-20; Mt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me." And the peace of the Lord will be with you always!



O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose
blood, once shed, true life re - stored, Im -
part Your joy, our faith in - crease. Sus -
tain with Your mer - cy and grant us Your peace.

The Order of Holy Communion



Communion Today is for Members Only Please

We don't judge anyone's faith, but we do stand up for our own. The Bible teaches what we call "Close Communion," that is, God wants you to commune only with those people with whom you are agreed in ALL the Bible's teachings. This belief is based upon 1 Corinthians 1:10 & 11:26-30, among other Bible passages. Therefore, if you are a guest with us today, and BEFORE you come up to commune with us, you'll want to find out if our church teaches what the Bible does! The pastor would be happy to discuss this with you at your convenience!

THE DISTRIBUTION

Please remain seated.

P Take and eat. This is the true body of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Take and drink. This cup is the true blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.

May this body and blood strengthen and preserve you in the true faith, unto life everlasting. Depart in peace. Amen.

C: 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace: A
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One; For
light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

C: My heart has now be - come Your dwell - ing, O bless - ed,
ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Your prais - es
tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly. Lord, may Your
bod - y and Your blood Be for my soul the high - est good!

THE BENEDICTION:

Numbers 6:24-26

P The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.

C Amen!

HYMN: TLH #360

“Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

✠ Announcements ✠

Pastor Fossum Pastor Fossum will be conducting Orlando service next Sunday, April 10 and will return for the Winter Haven service at 10:15 a.m. There will be no Bible Class that Sunday.

Voters’ Meeting: After church today we will be having a voters’ meeting. This is our quarterly meeting, and we will be calling for a pastor. There will be an elders’ meeting after the voters meet.

Good Friday: We will be having a special Good Friday service at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, April 15. Prof. Naumann will be conducting the service.

- ✠ **Apr. 3:** Bible Class 9:15am
Communion Service WH
10:15am; Voters’ Meeting;
Elder’s Meeting
- ✠ **Apr. 10:** Orland Service 8am
WH 10:15am
- ✠ **Apr. 15:** Good Friday Service
6:30pm
- ✠ **Apr. 17:** Easter Brunch
9:00am
- ✠ **Apr. 17:** Easter Service WH
10:15am

Lillies: If you would like to purchase a lilly in memory of a loved one, please sign the list in the back, write who your lilly is in memory of, pay Teresa \$10, and mark yourself paid. After the Easter service April 17, please take your lilly home. Thank you.

Easter: Easter Sunday, April 17, we will have an Easter brunch at 9:00 am. Please bring some breakfast food or drink to share. Thank you. The service will begin at 10:15 a.m. with Prof. Naumann conducting ther service.

Congratualtions: Pastor Sam and Jess were blessed with a baby boy on March 28. Thomas Joel Rodebaugh was born at 9:35 p.m. 8lbs. 9oz. 20.5 in. long. Praise the Lord for this blessing in their lives. Both Thomas and Jess are doing well.

Cleaner (4/2): Bernthal | **Acolyte (4/3):** Maxwell Kuehne

Last Week: WH – 18 **Total Offering =** \$1,612.00

General = \$1,312.00 | **Prop. Imp. =** \$200.00 | **ILC Sch. =** \$100.00

Cleaner (4/9): Naumann | **Acolyte (4/10):** Seth Bernthal

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; April 4-9, '22

Mon Isaiah 43:16-21 Listen! God has good news and deserves our attention as well as our devotion, for He controls Nature (16) and rescues us from national disasters (17). If that's not good enough (18), He has a new and impressive program (19), in which He turns Nature on its ear in order to salvage His elect people, whom He has lovingly formed for Himself (20-21). [We love them, too, as our brothers and sisters in Christ.]

Tues Luke 20:9-19 Now the bad news: people don't honor God as they ought. In fact, His servants have been bullied, abused, and maimed (9-11). Yet God hasn't given up on humanity but sent His own beloved Son to rescue man-kind (13). [We know how that went (14-15).] We regret that Hebrews (in general) continue to insist on rejecting Jesus (16) and thus are stuck with the penalty (17-20). Lord, have mercy on such foolish people!

Wed Philippians 3:4b-14 Paul was such a fool—in fact, a super-Jew (4-6) until God set him straight—that salvation is a matter of trusting God's mercy and grace in/with Jesus (7-9), who survived

death in order to prove that God’s plan really works (10-11). Our compass is set on Jesus, and we stay on course until we cross over Jordan (12-14). See you there.

Thurs Isaiah 44:1-8 Hebrew people were proud of their racial heritage but confused it with something entirely different. Here God sets them straight that Jacob/Israel is God’s servant, on whom He would pour His Spirit and bless a child to confess, “I am the LORD’s!” and another to acknowledge God’s claim on him (1-6). Almighty God, Redeemer and Rock of ages, signs His name to validate the passport of souls such as these (6-8).

Fri Luke 20:27-40 Liberal Hebrews who didn’t venerate Moses tried to trick Jesus with the question: “If resurrection is real, what about Moses’ marriage regulation (Deut. 25:5) for people when they are living in heaven?” Jesus got right to the point—that resurrection IS real, just as Moses said (37-38), but regulations about earthly relationships do not apply to heavenly relationships (34-36). That makes sense (39), and it’s God’s good judgment besides.

Sat Philippians 3:17-21 We are familiar with the admonition to note/take note of certain persons—but this time its purpose is not to avoid them (as in Romans 16:17), but rather in order to join with them (fellowship) in following the pattern of the Apostle Paul’s walk of life (17). He names some of them in verses 2 and 3 of the next chapter. Then in mid-stream Paul switches back to those who don’t share this walk of life, who are enemies of the cross of Christ, who serve their selfish appetites—and it’s obvious that God’s children should steer clear of them. We trust God’s good judgment on this. Amen.